GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6668
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2005
INDO-GERMAN JOINT COMMISSION
Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any statement has been issued after the Indo-German joint commission meeting held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of Indo-German Trade at present alongwith its fields and extent to which it is likely to be upgraded?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a): Yes Sir. A Joint Statement was issued on 5th April 2005 after the conclusion of the 15th Session of the Indo-German Joint Commission meeting held in New Delhi on 4-5 April, 2005.

(b): The 15th Session of the Indo-German Joint Commission on Industrial and Economic Cooperation was held in New Delhi on 4-5th April, 2005. The German delegation was headed by Mr. Wolfgang Clement, Federal Minister of Economics and Labour and the Indian delegation by Shri P. Chidambaram, Union Finance Minister.

During the meeting, both sides were in agreement about the key role played by industrial cooperation and investment in the on-going development of Indo-German economic relations. Both sides were of the view that outlook for cooperation in the fields of information technology, biotechnology, telecommunications, environmental technology, chemicals, pharmaceuticals etc. is promising. The need for cooperation in the area of small and medium enterprises and in those fields of physical infrastructure in which Germany has expertise was stressed. Both sides saw opportunities for India to study the experience of Germany in the production and use of bio-diesel, in which Germany is a pioneer.

The Indian side brought to the notice of the Government of Germany various issues of concern to the Indian business including visa procedures, one language documentation, issue of work permits for IT professionals, difficulties faced by Indian exporters of agriculture and marine products and sought support from Germany with regard to European Union`s anti-dumping measures against India and it`s Registration Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals (REACH) proposals.

Both sides acknowledged that knowledge-based sectors like information technology, biotechnology, and nanotechnology will play a significant role in expanding bilateral trade and cooperation in future.

(c): Indo-German bilateral trade during the year 2003-04 was of the order of US $ 5433.66 million, a growth of 20.45% over 2002-03. The bilateral trade during April-February 2004-05 was the order of US $ 5,735.62 million, a growth of 18.59% over the same period of 2003-04.

Indo-German bilateral trade basket include textiles/clothing products, machinery and instruments, drugs/pharmaceuticals, chemicals, leather goods, machine tools, transport equipments, manufactures of metals, electronic goods, gems/jewellery etc.